

# CABINET

15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024

## REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2024/25 TO 2026/27

### Recommendations / key decisions required:

1. That Cabinet:

- 1.1 Note the contents of the report and approve the three year Budget Strategy 2024/25 to 2026/27. This strategy will be used to support the budget consultation and form the basis of the final budget proposals
- 1.2 Note the budget reductions/savings proposals in Appendix A, which will be considered as part of the consultation
- 1.3 Note the 2024/25 shortfall of £801k in the current strategy, for which increased funding or cost reductions will need to be identified at the completion of the consultation as noted in paragraph 4.3
- 1.4 Note that this MTFP included a proposal to use reserve funding to support one off costs for Childrens Services

### Reasons:

To provide the Cabinet with an overview of the budget issues and outlook for the forthcoming years.

Cabinet Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

### CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:

Cllr. Alun Lenny – Cabinet Member for Resources

Directorate:  
Corporate Services

Name of Director:  
Chris Moore

Report Author:  
Randal Hemingway

Designations:

Director of Corporate  
Services

Head of Financial  
Services

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
CABINET  
15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2024/25 TO 2026/27**

The report provides members with an overview of the Revenue Budget for 2024/25 and the following two financial years.

It details the budget process, the current Welsh Government (WG) provisional settlement, the final settlement timetable and identifies the validation and budget pressures that need to be considered by members in setting next year's revenue budget.

The report will also form the basis of the budget consultation process that will be undertaken during January.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **Randal Hemingway** **Head of Financial Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

## 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The budget has been prepared having regard for the Council's Corporate Strategy, and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Equalities Impact Assessments have been undertaken on the budget proposals in order to consider and assess the potential impact with respect to protected characteristic groups. The Equalities Impact Assessments will be further developed following consideration of possible mitigation measures.

## 3. Finance

The report provides an initial view of the Budget Strategy for 2024/25, together with indicative figures for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years. The impact on departmental spending will be dependent upon the final settlements from Welsh Government, and the resultant final Budget adopted by County Council.

# CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **C. Moore** **Director of Corporate Services**

<b>1. Scrutiny Committee request for pre-determination</b>	NO
<b>If yes include the following information: -</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Date the report was considered:</b>	
<b>Scrutiny Committee Outcome/Recommendations:</b>	
Consultation with all Scrutiny committees will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process	

**2. Local Member(s)**  
Not Applicable

**3. Community / Town Council**  
Consultation with the Town & Community Council Forum will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process

**4. Relevant Partners**  
Consultation with relevant partners will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process

**5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations**  
Consultation with Trades Unions and other organisations will be undertaken and results will be reported during the budget process

<b>CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED</b> YES	<b>Include any observations here:</b>
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**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information  
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
<b>2023/24 3-year Revenue Budget</b>		<b>Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen</b>
<b>WG Provisional Settlement</b>		<b>Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen</b>